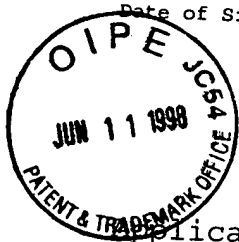


GAU 12# 1623
#5 1/2

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Signature and Deposit: June 5, 1998



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark R. McCormick

Date: June 5, 1998

Serial No.: 08/724,631

Examiner: G. Kunz

Filed: October 1, 1996

Group Art Unit: 1211

For: METHOD FOR PRECIPITATING
NUCLEIC ACID WITH VISIBLE
CARRIER

File No.: 700399.90053

STATUS INQUIRY

RECEIVED

JUN 16 1998

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington DC 20231

PATENT QUALITY
EXAMINATION

Dear Sir:

On December 4, 1997, a notice of suspension due to a potential interference was mailed to the undersigned. Ex parte prosecution of the application was suspended for a period of six months which has now expired.

The applicant respectfully requests an update as to the status of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Bennett J. Berson
Reg. No. 37,094
Attorney for Applicant
QUARLES & BRADY
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